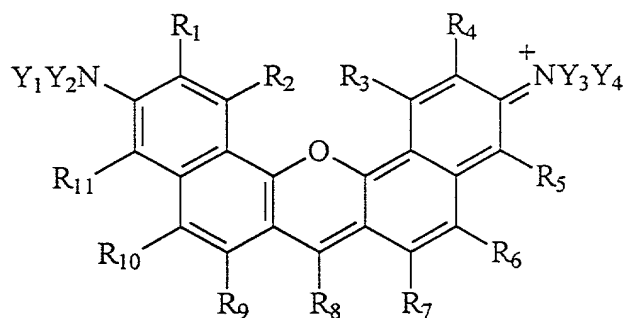


ABSTRACT

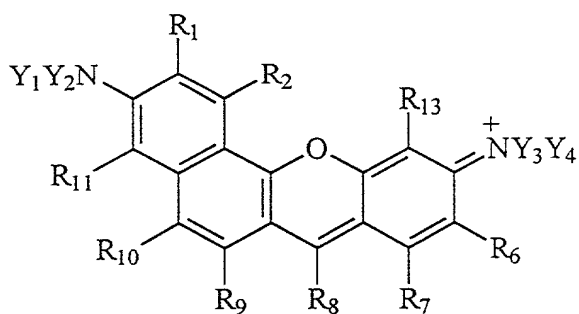
Extended rhodamine compounds exhibiting favorable fluorescence characteristics having the structure



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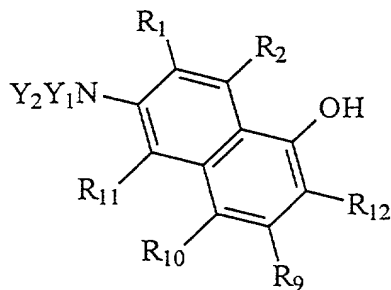
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or,



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are disclosed. In addition, novel intermediates for synthesis of these dyes are disclosed, such intermediates having the structure



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In addition, methods of making and using the dyes as fluorescent labels are disclosed.